

**Rural District of Southam.**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1939,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

**Warwickshire Combined Districts.**

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1940.

I, MILVERTON HILL,  
LEAMINGTON SPA,  
December, 1940.

**To the Southam Rural District Council.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1939, very late owing to delayed arrival of the necessary statistics and pressure of other work.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is a short statement of fact with no comment. All the available information is, however, being kept for record and, if required, can be produced.

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the Council and my colleagues,

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## *Southam Rural District.*

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### A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1939 { For Birth Rate 10,870  
 „ „ Death „ 11,050

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births { Legitimate 144 72 72 }				Birth Rate 13.5
{ Illegitimate 3 2 1 }				

Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births ... .. 27

Deaths ... .. 153 77 76 Death Rate 13.8

Adjusting Factor for Death Rate ... .. .80

Adjusted Death Rate ... .. 11.1

Deaths from Diseases and { From Sepsis ... —  
 Accidents of Pregnancy and „ other causes . —  
 Child-birth

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... .. 54

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 35

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live  
 births ... .. 1000

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... .. —

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ... .. —

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... 1

### B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. *Public Health Officers.*—A complete list was given in the Report for 1938.

6. *Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by the Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ... 2 ... 15 ...			17
Enteric Fever... — ... — ...			—
Tuberculosis ... 1 ... 11 ...			12
			29

### C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1.—(i) WATER SUPPLY.

*Southam and Long Itchington.*—There are now 474 connections to Southam and Long Itchington Water Supply, 283 and 191 respectively.

*Harbury, Bishops Itchington, Napton. Ladbroke and Gaydon.*—The scheme has been commenced and is proceeding slowly.

(ii) *Public Cleansing.*—No change.

(iii) *Sanitary Inspection of Area.*—Table I. gives a summary of inspections.

## D. HOUSING.

Full particulars of the usual Table have been compiled and are being kept for Record purposes, but with a view to economy they are not being printed.

### *Housing Conditions.*

#### 1. HOUSING ACT, 1936.

*Official Representations during year :—*

(a) Houses in Clearance Areas	...	...	—
(b) Houses (individual)	...	...	2
			—
Total	...	...	2
			—

*Clearance Orders :—*

7 Clearance Orders, Nos. 19 to 26, affecting 45 houses, were confirmed during the year.

Tenants in houses affected by Clearance Orders Nos. 5-13 were rehoused.

The erection of houses at Napton and Southam for rehousing purposes was stopped by the outbreak of war.

*Proceedings under Section 11.*—In addition to the 2 Demolition Orders given in 3 (c) (1) of this Report, Undertakings were accepted in connection with 3 houses.

3. *Overcrowding.*—Two cases of overcrowding were abated during the year. There are 19 cases to be dealt with.

## E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

*Milk and Dairies.*—The number on the Register is 297.

*Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.*—The County Council are the Licensing Authority.

Number licensed to produce T.T. Milk	...	10
„ „ „ Accredited Milk		43

The standard of cleanliness continues to improve ; steam sterilisation is insisted upon.

(b) *Meat*.—96 Notices of Occasional slaughter have been received, the larger proportion being cottagers' pigs.

*Slaughterhouses in use.*

	1920.	Jan., 1939.	Dec., 1939.
Registered	... —	... —	... —
Licensed	... 14	... 20	... 19

## F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

*Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1932.*

		Smallpox,	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1933	...	—	1	70	—	21	—	1
1934	...	—	23	85	—	15	—	—
1935	...	—	17	9	1	23	—	—
1936	...	—	44	13	—	17	1	—
1937	...	—	30	23	—	11	—	2
1938	...	—	7	12	—	19	—	3
1939	...	—	6	18	—	7	—	4

Reference to Table III. will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1939.

Cases of Infectious Disease are removed by arrangement with the Warwick Joint Hospital Board to their Hospitals.

*School Closures.*

Bishops Itchington, 6th to 13th Feb. Influenza.

Harbury C.E. Infants, 28th Feb. to 13th Mar. Whooping Cough

Harbury C.E. Infants, 2nd May to Whitsun Holidays. Whooping Cough.

Harbury C.E. Infants, 27th Nov. to Xmas Holidays. Measles.

Radway, 28th Feb. to 6th Mar. Influenza.

Chesterton, 26th Oct. to 13th Nov. Mumps.

Southam Infants, 4th Dec. to Xmas Holidays. Measles.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

			NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
					Non-				Non-	
			Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.	
AGE—PERIODS			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
1	...	...	...	1	—	...	1	...	—	...
5	...	...	...	—	1	...	—	...	—	...
15	...	...	...	3	—	...	—	1	...	...
25	...	...	...	1	—	...	1	...	1	1
35	...	...	...	1	2	...	—	...	1	—
45	...	...	...	1	—	...	—	...	1	—
55	...	...	...	—	—	...	—	...	—	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	—	—	...	—	...	—	...
TOTALS			...	7	3	...	2	...	3	1
			...	—	—	...	—	...	—	2

4 patients were admitted to Sanatorium during 1939 ;  
3 were discharged.

## REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

A copy of this Report has been received and kept for  
reference.

TABLE 1.

## RURAL DISTRICT OF SOUTHAM.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S  
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1939.

			Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
				Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...	...	210	—	4	4
Lodging Houses	...	...	10	—	—	—
Dairies, Milkshops and	...	...	100	—	—	—
Cow Sheds	...	...				
Bakehouses	...	...	3	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses	...	...	175	—	—	—
Canal Boats	...	...	—	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	...	...	42	—	6	6
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	—	—	—	—
Water-closets	...	...	12	—	2	2
House Drainage	...	...	163	—	14	14
Water Supply	...	...	60	—	—	—
Pigsties	...	...	—	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept	...	...	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	...	...	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workshops	...	...	20	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	...	...	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...	295	—	26	26

## PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	3
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	46
Schools ditto ditto ditto	...	...	—

H. L. WELCH, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.  
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1939 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1933	11,300	150	13.2	7	47	188	16.2
1934	11,190	172	15.4	10	58	138	12.3
1935	11,130	159	14.3	8	50	155	13.9
1936	11,090	173	16.6	7	40	159	14.3
1937	11,060	161	13.9	6	37	166	14.3
1938	10,960	176	16.0	15	85	145	13.2
1939	11,050	147	13.5	8	54	153	13.8



TABLE III.—SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE  
YEAR 1939.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.							Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.		
Small-pox ... ..									
Plague ... ..									
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	6	.....	1	4	.....	.....	1	.....	6
Erysipelas ... ..	1	.....					1	.....	
Scarlet Fever ... ..	18	.....	2	6	9	1	.....	.....	11
Typhus Fever ... ..									
Enteric Fever ... ..									
Pneumouia ... ..	7	.....	1	.....	1	2	2	1	5
Malaria ... ..									
Dysentery ... ..									
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	4	.....			2	2	✓		
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis									
Poliomyelitis ... ..									
Encephalitis Lethargica									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	.....						
Polio-Eucephalitis ...									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	.....	1	1	3	4	1	.....	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	.....	1	.....		1	.....		3
Totals ... ..	50	2	6	11	15	10	5	1	17

TABLE IV.  
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1939.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes ... ..	77	76
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....		
2 Measles ... ..		
3 Scarlet Fever ... ..		
4 Whooping Cough ... ..		
5 Diphtheria ... ..		
6 Influenza ... ..	4	3
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..		
8 Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..		1
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	3	1
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	1	2
11 Syphilis ... ..		
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ... ..		
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	13	14
14 Diabetes ... ..	1	
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ... ..	6	12
16 Heart Disease ... ..	22	20
17 Aneurysm ... ..		
18 Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	2	2
19 Bronchitis ... ..	1	
20 Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	2	3
21 Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	1	
22 Peptic Ulcer ... ..		
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ... ..		1
24 Appendicitis ... ..		
25 Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..		
26 Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ... ..	1	1
27 Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	2	1
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	2	3
29 Puerperal Sepsis ... ..		
30 Other Puerperal Causes ... ..		
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc. ... ..	4	2
32 Senility ... ..	1	1
33 Suicide ... ..	1	2
34 Other Violence ... ..	2	2
35 Other Defined Diseases ... ..	8	5
36 Causes, ill-defined or unknown ... ..		